ATENT

DK-US020066

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Shigeharu TAIRA

Serial No.: New – (National Phase of

PCT/JP03/01205)

International filing date: February 5, 2003

For: METHOD FOR DETERMINING

RECYCLABILITY OF REFRIGERANT-USE EQUIPMENT OR REFRIGERANT PIPING, AND CHECK TOOL FOR RECYCLABILITY OF REFRIGERANT-USE EQUIPMENT OR REFRIGERANT

PIPING

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In accordance with MPEP 609 and 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant brings the references listed on the attached PTO-1449-Form to the Examiner's attention and request that they be considered and made of record in this application. Copies of the non-U.S. patents are attached. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three (3) months of the filing date of this application. Thus, *no fee is believed to be due for this*Information Disclosure Statement. However, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1836. A duplicate copy of this Statement is enclosed for that purpose.

Since this application was filed after June 30, 2003, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office waives the requirement under 37 C.F.R. 1.98 (a) (2) (i) for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. Patent and each U.S. patent application publication.

* * *

Page 2 of 2

Prompt examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

David L. Tarnoff

Reg. No. 32,383

SHINJYU GLOBAL IP COUNSELORS, LLP 1233 Twentieth Street, NW, Suite 700 Washington, DC 20036 (202)-293-0444

Dated: 7-16-04

G:\07-JUL04-MSM\DK-US020066 IDS.doc

PTO/SB/08A (10-01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF CO Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 2 persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless a valid OMB con								
	Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT				Comple			
					Application Number	New -PCT/JP03/01205 Nat'l Phase		
					Filing Date	Herewith		
	0.77			i i Lio/titi	First Named Inventor	Shigeharu TAIRA		
					Group Art Unit			
	(use as many sheets as necessary)				Examiner Name			
T	Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	DK-US020066		

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials *	Cite	Document Number	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant		
	Cite No.1	Number - Kind Code ² (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY		Passages or Relevant Figures Appear		
		US- 2003/0010044-A1	01-16-2003	Taira			
		US-					
		US-					
		US-					
		US-					
		US-					
		US-					
		US-					
		US-					
		US-					
		US-					
	1	US-					
		US-					
		US-					
		US-					
	1	US-					
		US-					
		US-					
		US-					
		US-					

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document		Name of Patentee or	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T [©]
Examiner Initials*		Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (<i>if known</i>)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Applicant of Cited Document		
		JP-11-325621-A	11-26-1999	Sasaki et al.		Yes
	•	JP-2001-227846-A	08-24-2001	Taira		Yes

Examiner Signature	Date Considered	

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional) . ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at <u>www.uspto.gov</u> or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is